

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 189539

61

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:DMACK:WES

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:DMACK

----- 081347

P 302122Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCEUR VAINGEN PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189539

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL RPT LISBON 5142 ACTION SECSTATE AMEMBASSY BONN INFO

USNMR SHAPE USMISSION NATO R 301622Z JUL 76 QUOTE

O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5142

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS:CINCEUR VAIHINGEN, DIA WASHDC, CINCUSAFE
RAMSTEIN, CSAF WASHDC.

MILITARY ADDEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE.

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS:

.8)8, PO, GW

SUBJ: PAF UNHAPPINESS WITH GERMAN G-91 AIRCRAFT

REF: BONN 12779

SUMMARY: PROTUGUESE AIR FORCE (PAF) IS PRESSING GERMANS TO RESPOND
TO THE PROBLEM OF AMINTENANCE NEEDED BY G-91 AIRCRAFT RECENTLY
GIVEN TO PAF. IN PAF VIEW U.S. IS INVOLVED WHETHER WE WANT TO BE
OR NOT. END SUMMARY.

1. DEPUTY CHIEF OF AIR FORCE STAFF FOR LOGISTICS, BRIGADIER

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 189539

JOSE LEMOS FERREIRA TALKED TO AAIRA JULY 29 REITERATING POINTS

MADE IN A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE WEST GERMAN DELEGATION IN PORTUGAL. A COPY OF THE LETTER WAS FURNISHED TO THE DATT ON 28 JULY 1976. ESSENTIALLY, THE LETTER STATES THE FOURTEEN FIAT G-91 R-3 AIRCRAFT GIVEN TO THE PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE (PAF) AT BEJA AIR BASE ON 15 JULY 1976 WERE UNUSABLE. ACCORDING TO THE PAF THE 14 AIRCRAFT ARE IN THE FOLLOWING STATE OF AIRWORTHINESS:

A. ONE AIRCRAFT WITH IRAN WORK DUE IN APRIL 1974, OVER TWO YEARS AGO.

B. FIVE AIRCRAFT AWAITING IRAN SINCE MID-1975, ONE YEAR AGO.

C. THREE AIRCRAFT WITH IRAN DUE AT THIS TIME (JULY/AUGUST 1976).

D. TWO AIRCRAFT WITH IRAN PROGRAMMED FOR LATE 1976.

E. THREE AIRCRAFT WITH IRAN PROGRAMMED FOR JUNE 1977.

MANUFACTURER SPECIFIES IRAN WORK AFTER EVERY 800 HOURS OF FLYING TIME OR EVERY 36 MONTHS. THE PAF CONCLUDES NINE AIRCRAFT ARE IN NON-OPERATIONAL STATUS AND WITHOUT POSSIBILITY OF UTILIZATION AND FIVE AIRCRAFT HAVE A POTENTIAL UTILIZATION OF AROUND FIVE MONTHS.

2. BRIGADIER LEMOS FERREIRA TOLD AAIRA THAT THE GERMAN DEFENSE ATTACHE IN LISBON HAD BEEN GIVEN A COPY OF THE LETTER DESTINED FOR THE WEST GERMAN DELEGATION PRESIDENT. LEMOS FERREIRA REPEATED THAT THE AGREEMENT ON THE 14 FIAT G-91 R03 REQUIRED THE DELIVERY OF OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT, THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS AGREEMENT CONCERNING SIX FIAT G-91 T-3 AIRCRAFT. HE SHOWED AAIRA THE AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS POINTING OUT THE SIMILAR LANGUAGE OF THE TWO. EACH AGREEMENT SPECIFIED "OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT". LEMOS FERREIRA REPEATED HIS REASON FOR HAVING GONE TO THE DATT WITH HIS PROBLEM FIRST. HIS REASONS WERE THAT THE PAF CHIEF OF STAFF WAS ABROAD, THE GERMAN DEFENSE ATTACHE WAS IN MADEIRA, AND BOTH THE GERMAN DELEGATION CHIEF AND HIS ASSISTANT WERE OUT OF TOWN. FEELING THAT U.S./NATO WOULD BE INVOLVED WITH THE PORTUGUESE PROBLEM BY EXTENSION, LEMOS FERREIRA FELT WE SHOULD KNOW BEFORE THE STORY HIT THE NEWSPAPERS. (SAME POINTS WERE MADE IN LETTER TO GERMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 189539

DELEGATION PRESIDENT.) THIS HE SAID WAS BOUND TO HAPPEN SOON BECAUSE THE MECHANICS AND PILOTS AT MONTIJO AIR BASE WHERE THE G-91'S ARE STATIONED KNEW OF THE DEPLORABLE STATE OF THE AIRCRAFT. HE SAID HE HAD NO MEANS AT HIS DISPOSAL TO PREVENT THE NEWS FROM SPREADING THROUGH THE MEDIA. HE FELT THAT HE AND THE PAF HIERARCHY ARE IN A CERTAIN JEOPARDY BECAUSE THE CAPTAIN AND MAJOR PILOTS AT THE BASES, WHO ALREADY HAVE DOUBTS AS TO THE COMPETENCE OF HEADQUARTERS ELEMENTS, WOULD NOW SERIOUSLY QUESTION

THE COMPETENCE OF THEIR GENERALS.

COMMENT: AAIRA SHOWED MAAG AIR FORCE SECTION CHIEF, AN AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE OFFICER, THE DATA FURNISHED BY LEMOS FERREIRA. HE AGREES, THE AIRCRAFT ARE IN NO CONDITION TO FLY. PAF DOES NOT HAVE R-3 PARTS, WHICH WOULD TAKE A YEAR TO PROGRAM. ALVERCA LABOR COSTA APPROXIMATELY 6-8 DOLLARS PER MAN HOUR. IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT 5,000 MAN HOURS TO PERFORM THE NEEDED WORK ON EACH AIRCRAFT. IN ASSESSING THE AIRCRAFT HE SAID THEY APPEARED TO BE PRACTICALLY NEW WITH RESPECT TO TOTAL FLYING HOURS, BUT WORK IS NEEDED DUE TO CALENDAR TIME. IT IS APPARENT THE FIATS HAVE BEEN IN STORAGE A LONG TIME AND AS A RESULT THE AIRCRAFT COULD BE IN BAD SHAPE. DATT AND AAIRA'S ASSESSMENT CONTINUES TO BE THAT THE AIRCRAFT ARE NOT OPERATIONALLY READY AND THE PAF DOES NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO CORRECT THE SITUATION. GERMAN DEFENSE ATTACHE STATED TODAY THAT GERMAN DEFENSE STAFF WAS MEETING THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

CARLUCCI

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, AIR FORCE, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE189539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:DMACK:WES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760295-0754
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976073/aaaaacax.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 BONN 12779
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAF UNHAPPINESS WITH GERMAN G-91 AIRCRAFT
TAGS: MASS, PO, GE
To: USCINCEUR CINCUSAFE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006